

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
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INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0526

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, NO, SW, UR, DA
SUBJ: SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH THE
NORDICS

REF: (A) OSLO 193, (B) STOCKHOLM 207; (C) REYKJAVIK 115, (D) 76
COPENHAGEN 3367

1. BECAUSE OF INTEREST IN SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO CONCLUDE
CONSULTATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH THE OTHER NORDIC COUNTRIES,
EMBOFF ASKED MFA WHAT THE DANISH EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN UNDER
THE DANISH-SOVIET PROTOCOL SIGNED IN 1976 (REFTEL D).

2. CHIEF OF MFA'S EASTERN EUROPEAN OFFICE, MARY DAU,
RECALLED THAT TRADITIONALLY THE DANES HAVE RESISTED
CONCLUDING AGREEMENTS WHICH ARE MEANT TO FORMALIZE THE
POLITICAL CONSULTATION PROCESS WITH OTHER STATES. THE
MAIN REASON THAT THE DANES YIELDED TO SOVIET INSISTENCE
ON A "PIECE OF PAPER" WAS BECAUSE SIMILAR AGREEMENTS
WITH THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN CONCLUDED BY OTHER NATO
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COUNTRIES. (ITALY, BRITAIN AND CANADA WERE
MENTIONED.)

3. THE PROTOCOL IS ESSENTIALLY A DOCUMENT WHICH
AFFIRMS THE EXISTENCE OF CORDIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN
DENMARK AND THE SOVIET UNION AND CALLS FOR CON-
SULTATIONS ON A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS TO TAKE PLACE

AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR. DAU OBSERVED THAT THE PROTOCOL HAS IN NO WAY CHANGED THE NATURE OF THE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WHICH THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE LONG ENGAGED IN, BASICALLY VIA AN ANNUAL VISIT HERE BY A SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL IN ANTICIPATION OF THE OPENING OF THE UNGA. WITH OR WITHOUT SUCH A PROTOCOL, FOREIGN DEPUTY MINISTER ZIMSKOV WOULD PRESUMABLY STILL HAVE VISITED COPENHAGEN IN SEPTEMBER 1977 AND FOREIGN MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN WOULD STILL BE PLANNING TO VISIT THE SOVIET IN LATE FEBRUARY.

4. IN REFLECTING ON THE SOVIET DRIVE TO CONCLUDE SIMILAR AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER NORDICS, DAU REGARDED THIS PRIMARILY AS A MANIFESTATION OF SOVIET BUREAUCRATIC PREOCCUPATION WITH OBTAINING SUCH DOCUMENTS, EVEN IF THE DOCUMENT HAS LITTLE EFFECT ON EXISTING REALITY. SHE REPEATED THE DANISH JUDGMENT THAT NO NEW SOVIET POLICY THRUST SHOULD BE INFERRED FROM THE KOSYGIN-NORDIC MINISTERS ENCOUNTER OR THE WISH TO FORMALIZE CONSULTATIVE AGREEMENTS OF THE TYPE ALREADY CONCLUDED WITH THE DANES.

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